

CLAIMS

1. A system for controlling the torsional stability of the drivetrain (2) of a machine, in particular of a helicopter (H), said system (1) making it possible to regulate the speed of at least one engine (5) of said drivetrain (2) and comprising at least:

- a first means (7) for acting on said speed, as a function of operating commands;
- a second means (8) for measuring a speed NTL corresponding to the speed of rotation of the free turbine of said engine (5);
- a correction device (9) for correcting said measured speed NTL into a corrected value NTLcorr;
- a third means (11) for determining a preset value NTLpres corresponding to the preset value for the speed of rotation of the free turbine of the engine (5); and
- a computation unit (12) for automatically computing, on the basis of said preset value NTLpres and of said corrected value NTLcorr, operating commands which are applied automatically to said first means (7),

wherein said correction device (9) implements a correction law which corrects said measured speed NTL to obtain a corrected value NTLcorr exhibiting, at least in a frequency domain situated around at least the first torsional mode of said drivetrain (2), the same modulus as said preset value NTLpres and a phase which is opposite to the phase of said preset value NTLpres in such a way as to damp at least said first torsional mode of the drivetrain (2).

2. The system as claimed in claim 1, wherein said correction device (9) corrects said measured speed NTL to obtain a corrected value NTLcorr which exhibits the same modulus as said preset value NTLpres and a phase which is opposite to the phase of said preset value NTLpres, in frequency domains

situated around a number  $n$  of torsional modes of said drivetrain (2),  $n$  being an integer greater than 1.

3. The system as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein said computation unit (12) and said correction  
5 device (9) are incorporated into one and the same  
computer of digital type.

4. The system as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein said correction device (9) is an independent  
computer.

10 5. The system as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein said correction device (9) is an at least  
partially mechanical means.

6. Process for determining the correction law  
implemented by the correction device (9) of the system  
15 (1) specified under claim 1,  
wherein the following operations are carried out in  
succession:

- a) a simulation model of the power train comprising the  
drivetrain (2) and at least one engine (5) of the  
20 machine (H) is formulated theoretically, making it  
possible to compute a first transfer function for  
transferring between the free turbine's speed of  
rotation, which is filtered with the aid of a  
predetermined filter, and said preset value  $NTL_{pres}$ ;
- 25 b) the power train is operated while parameters making  
it possible to tune said first transfer function are  
measured;
- c) an open-loop transfer function is determined by  
placing the thus-tuned transfer function of the  
30 power train and the transfer function of said filter  
in series;
- d) the transfer function of said filter is subtracted  
from said open-loop transfer function; and
- 35 e) a corrector is formulated as replacement for said  
filter, so as to obtain a correction transfer  
function which is such that the overall transfer  
obtained by the placing of the latter function and  
of the transfer function of the power train in  
series represents said correction law.

7. The process as claimed in claim 6,  
wherein an increase in the gains is effected on said  
correction law.